20. The most notable change to be recorded in this connection is the gradual disappearance of the Lullia Forest in the Naushahro Division which, having been eroded continually for years past, has dwindled down to about 300 acres.

Lullia Forest.

21. A sum of Rs. 1,284-9-7 was spent in keeping the eroding banks clear of trees to prevent their falling into the river and endangering navigation. Material to the value of Rs. 3,770-12-6 was saved from eroding banks; of this Rs. 2,923-12-6 worth has been disposed of; the balance remained in stock at the end of the year.

Erosion operations.

22. The following statement exhibits the progress made in acquiring new formations thrown up in front of and adjoining reserved forests under the orders of the Commissioner in Sind referred to in paragraph 15 of last year's administration report :—

Accretions.

Forest Division.	No. of undecided claims on 1st July 1894.	No. of new claims.	No. of claims decided.			No. of claims undecided on 30th June 1895.	Remarks.
			In favour of the Department.	Against the Department.	Total.		
Sukkur	1	3	1	...	1	3	
Naushahro	4	7	6	1	7	3	1 Kacha washed away.
Hyderabad	2	...	...	...	...	2	
Jerruck	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	7	10	7	1	8	8	

II.—Forest Settlements.

23. Forest settlement work is practically finished in all the divisions, and only a few of the conservancy projects drawn up by the Forest Settlement Officer before closing his office at the end of March 1895 under the orders of Government passed in their Resolution No. 9438, dated 19th November 1894, remained to be disposed of.

Forest settlements.

24. Mr. Barrow, I. C. S., the Special Officer appointed by Government Resolution No. 8431, dated 27th October 1892, entered upon his duties on the 23rd November 1892 and held charge of the Settlement Office up to 26th March 1895, a period of 28 months, during which time he had additional duties as Assistant Judge to perform for eight and was absent on privilege leave for three months, so that he was able to give his undivided attention to his regular duties for a period of about a year and a half only.

25. During this time, he submitted proposals under Sections 4 and 19 of the Indian Forest Act for acquiring 10,996 and 95,193 acres, respectively, and on his recommendation 38,330 acres were also disforested under Section 26. The necessary notifications under Section 4 having not been published in the Government Gazette before the abolition of Mr. Barrow's appointment, the enquiries affecting rights will have to be undertaken in the next year by Assistant and Deputy Collectors in whose jurisdiction the 10,996 acres noted above are situated.

26. While finally reporting on his work to the Commissioner in Sind, he has recorded his opinion that in the Sukkur, Naushahro and Hyderabad Forest Divisions there is very little land available for forest purposes, but he adds that in the Jerruck Division there are five tapas of Ghorabari Taluka which are capable of contributing an additional area of 12,000 acres.

Area available for future acquisitions.

27. The expenditure during the period the Settlement Office was retained amounted to Rs. 7,581, but this does not include charges on account of the Special Officer's salary and allowances. As these have not been debited to forest accounts, there are no means of ascertaining them from the records of the Department.

Cost of settlements.

28. The following statement shows the areas notified under Sections 4, 19 and 26 of the Forest Act, respectively, during the year of this report :—

Areas notified under Indian Forest Act.

Forest Division.	Area notified under Section 4.	Area notified under Section 19.	Area notified under Section 26.	Remarks.
	Acres g.	Acres g.	Acres.	
Sukkur	34,442 29	7,891 7	33,486	
Naushahro	3,583 21	11,429 21	4,642	
Hyderabad	9,436 34	23,783 31	...	
Jerruck	9,275 21	18,270 23	...	
Total ...	56,738 25	61,375 2	38,128	

29. The work left to be done in connection with forest settlement is summarized below :—

Areas awaiting settlement.

SUKKUR.—All the lands selected for reservation have been finally notified under Section 19 of the Indian Forest Act, with the exception of 26,702 acres in the Kashmor Taluka, on which orders of Government are awaited.

NAUSHAHRO.—A very small area (136 acres) which has been recently notified under Section 4 remains to be settled.

HYDERABAD.—Equally good results have to be recorded in this division, as fresh selections aggregating 9,634 acres made in the Hala, Manjhand, Kotri and Hyderabad Talukas only remain to be dealt with.

JERRUCK.—Selections and settlements are complete in this division.

III.—Demarcation.

30. The Special Forest Settlement and Demarcation Officer had no time to demarcate the areas selected by him for reservation, as the tenure of the appointment was very short and he had to deal with large areas extending over the whole Province. Proposals, however, have been submitted by me to Government, through the Commissioner in Sind, offering to spare the services for six months during the touring season, 1895-96, of one of the Forest Officers attached to this Circle to carry out the demarcation on the ground of the recently selected areas by means of special marks.

Necessity for appointing a Demarcation Officer.

31. Boundaries and boundary-marks of existing reserves were carefully inspected by all Divisional Forest Officers, and such repairs as were deemed necessary were carried out, free of cost as usual, through the agency of cattle breeders, who are allowed to live within forest limits, and villagers, who are granted low-lying lands under the management of the Forest Department for cultivation. It is a pity that up to date no orders have been issued to Range Forest Officers

Boundaries, marks and paths.